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APPLICATION DEADLINE: All applications must be postmarked by December 22, 2000!

# Summer 2001 Employment Opportunity – Conservation Education

### The Program:

USDA Forest Service is offering students the opportunity to work closely with each other as a team of interns. Each team will design and implement conservation education programs for urban and rural youth, ranging in age from 7 to 14 years. Teams are formed to meet the following objectives:

- 1. To meet young people of diverse ethnic and socioeconomic backgrounds,
- 2. To meet with children in their environment and encourage them to participate in community projects, and
- 3. To reach children through interactive activities on topics, such as, including natural resources, the environment, and careers in natural resources.

Each team will visit groups of children located at community centers, city parks, day camps, and schools in mostly urban locations, as well as in some rural and suburban areas.

Employment will start on May 29, 2001 with a four-day orientation in Asheville, NC about Forest Service operations and the conservation education program. From there, the interns will travel to their selected duty stations in Asheville, NC; Huntsville, AL; Atlanta, GA; Milwaukee, WI; or Philadelphia, PA. It is possible that other locations could be added to the program, other than the ones stated in this announcement. The program ends on August 11, 2001.

Prior to the end of employment, each team will be responsible for submitting a team report to the coordinator in Asheville, NC, complete with photos.

### **The Candidates:**

The Forest Service is looking for students with a background or interests in education, the natural sciences, forestry, environmental science, or related coursework. The candidates must be able to live and work closely with others in a team situation, must have exceptional communication skills, enthusiasm, and creativity, and should have experience working with children.

The candidates selected must have a high-energy level and be prepared for possibilities for travel as part of their public contact. (Accommodation for travel is made during regular work hours.) Students that are hired should strongly consider having personal transportation. Interns without personal transportation must be willing to use public transportation or share expenses with other interns.

Assistance in locating housing will be provided, but rent is the responsibility of the intern. Employees may be asked to share a room or a house. The employee does NOT have to live in provided housing but will be responsible for finding alternative housing.

Candidates must be United States citizens and possess a valid driver's license from their state of residence.

## The Agency:

The Forest Service is the largest agency in the U.S. Department of Agriculture, providing leadership in the management, protection, and use of the Nation's forests and rangelands. The four major components of the agency are the National Forest System, Research and Development, State and Private Forestry, and International Forestry.

The agency is dedicated to ecosystem management on public lands for sustainable renewable resources, such as recreation, water, forage, wildlife, and wood, for the benefit of the American people. Sustainability assures the productivity of the land and quality of the environment for present and future generations.

### **Your Contact:**

If you are interested in becoming a summer intern in our Conservation Education Outreach Program – "Branching Out to the Youth of America", please contact:

Rod Kindlund, CEOP Coordinator, Southern Research Station - (828) 259-0560 or rkindlund@fs.fed.us

Please send COMPLETE applications by the deadline date (December 22, 2000) to:

U.S. Postal Mail:

Attention: Rod Kindlund, CEOP
USDA Forest Service
Southern Research Station
P.O. Box 2680
Asheville, NC 28802

Overnight Delivery:

Rod Kindlund, CEOP Coordinator
USDA Forest Service
Southern Research Station
Southern Research Station
200 Weaver Boulevard
Asheville, NC 28804

Note: This is a <u>PAID</u> internship. To be eligible, the student should be enrolled at a college or university for the Spring quarter/semester of 2001 and the Fall quarter/semester of 2001, either in a baccalaureate or master's program of study. Majors included are: Agricultural Sciences, Forestry, Natural Resource Management, Urban Forestry, Environmental Education, Education, Environmental Science, Natural Sciences, or Earth Sciences. Wages will depend on your education, experience level, and evaluation criteria questions. You will receive an hourly wage based upon the prevailing rate for GS-3, GS-4 or GS-5 depending upon your qualifications.

<u>ALL</u> application materials <u>MUST</u> be included in <u>ONE</u> package, or the separate pieces will be disqualified and discarded!

# To Apply, students <u>must</u> supply the following:

- 1) Review the position information contained herein;
- 2) Submit TWO letters of recommendation;
- 3) Submit ONE official copy of current college transcripts;
- 4) Submit <u>ONE</u> current resume relating to the position, including applicant's top three location requests for placement;
- 5) Respond to ALL of the following Evaluation Criteria questions (see below);
- 6) Fill out the optional AD-1086: National Origin form (used for statistical purposes only): and
- 7) Mail to the above address before the closing date (All applications must be postmarked prior to or by the deadline date of December 22, 2000).

## **Evaluation Criteria:**

- 1. Knowledge of natural resource conservation information
- 2. Ability to plan and conduct conservation education activities that are appropriate for children ages 7-14
- 3. Ability to communicate orally and in writing with a variety of individuals, including young children
- 4. Ability to work effectively as a member of a team to accomplish program goals
- 5. Ability to safely operate a passenger vehicle